



September 15, 2014

TO: Sheila Conlon-Mentkowski
Rehabilitation Administrator, ILATS

FROM: Ralph Black
Project Lead, Executive Order S-11-10 Implementation

SUBJECT: Update on the State Price Schedule

As per your request, I am providing below a brief update for the Assistive Technology Advisory Committee on developments since March 2014 related to the State Price Schedule for Purchase of Assistive Technology (SPS).

In early May we issued revised DOR policies and guidelines for use of the SPS. At that time, we also released a detailed Frequently Asked Questions document. IN these three documents we attempted to address many of the questions and issues which have arisen since the launch of the newly restructured SPS in February 2013. The guidelines and FAQ cover a wide variety of issues, but one topic to which we devoted considerable attention is providing detailed guidance for counselors and procurement staff on how to work collaboratively to ensure that we make purchases from a qualified vendor who will provide products and services which best meet the needs of our consumers at a price which represents the best value to the state.

Copies of these materials are available at <https://www.dor.ca.gov/sps-at>

Then, In June 2014, the Department of General Services extended the term of the SPS until June 30, 2016. Some changes were made in the terms and conditions applicable to the SPS and vendors were asked to sign an agreement committing to comply with those new rules. One notable change was inclusion of a provision requiring vendors to protect the confidentiality of employee or consumer data provided to them in the process of placing an order. Language was also revised to clarify that vendors must be

authorized by the manufacturer to sell or resell each assistive technology product included on their SPS price list.

Finally, I should mention that we are in the process of upgrading the SPS web site. The changes will facilitate searches, improve security, and make it easier for vendors to update their price lists. We expect the improvements to the web site to be in place within the next few weeks.

If you or the members of the ATAC have any questions, please let me know and I will be happy to provide additional information.